English 9 Phone Extension: 1919

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Mr. Battalini

2010-2011

**English 9: Classroom Syllabus**

**Course Objective:**

This course integrates a number of elements associated with the study of English language and literature. Writing, literary analysis and criticism, speech, grammar, and vocabulary are among the areas that will be highlighted during the school year. In turn, we will be reading a variety of genres (novels, short stories, essays, plays, poems, and excerpts) in an effort to expand our knowledge-base of the subject area. The guidelines for this course have been based on the *Pennsylvania Department of Education*’sacademic standards for reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These are listed on the PA Department of Education website: www.pde.state.pa.us

**Classroom Rules and Expectations:**

1. *Come to class on time.* Lingering outside of the classroom door when the bell rings

will be considered a tardy. You must be in the classroom when the bell rings to be

considered on time.

2. *Attend to personal needs before coming to class.* This means that you should stop at

your locker before class to make sure that you have all required materials. Books,

notebooks, writing utensils, etc. are your responsibility.

3. *Talk only when permitted.* Be aware of what is going on in the classroom since

talking is permitted in some situations. When an individual is speaking (the teacher or

a fellow student), show this person courtesy by *not* talking.

4. *Use polite speech and body language.* Unkind teasing and/or impolite behavior is

unacceptable and will not be tolerated! In this class **we respect ourselves, the**

**teacher, and fellow classmates.**

5. *Do your own work.* Students caught cheating will receive a zero on tests

and assignments. Both the student who shares his/her work and the person who copies

it will suffer the same consequences. The topic of plagiarism will be discussed in detail at a later date.

6. *No cell phones or electronic devices in class.* If you are using a cell phone or electronic device, you will be sent to the office for appropriate disciplinary actions.

7. *Hall passes* are to only be used if it is absolutely necessary. **Abuse of the pass will**

**result in a loss of this privilege**. All students must sign out and in on the pass sheet.

8. *Be attentive at all times during class.* Students are expected to sit up during instruction, remain seated until the bell, and actively participate in classroom activities.

**Consequences of Rule Breaking:**

In high school you are a young adult and, thus, are expected to act like one. If, however, a student fails to adhere to classroom rules and expectations, the teacher reserves the right to give detention, call a student’s home, call a parent-teacher conference, and/or take matters to the principal. I am confident that we will have a rewarding and productive school year. As such, I am positive that such distractions will be kept to a minimum.

**Absenteeism:**

It is the responsibility of the student, not the teacher, to find out what materials, notes, assignments, etc. he/she has missed. I will be happy to go over all of this with you at the end of class when you return or during homeroom. If a long-term assignment has been posted and you are absent on the day that it is due, the assignment will be due the day you return. If you are absent the day of a quiz or exam, you *must* see me the day you return in order to make arrangements to take it within a given time limit. \*\*\*NOTE: Students serving in-school suspension will receive extra readings and class work.

**Academic Policies:**

1. Assigned percentages/grades will be given for exams, quizzes, projects, papers,

portfolios, classroom assignments, homework assignments, participation, etc. Exact

number of points these elements are worth will be discussed at a later date.

2. Every student has the right to discuss questions concerning his/her grade(s) with the

teacher. If you have a problem with an assigned grade, I encourage you to speak with

me.

3. Due dates for assignments will be strictly adhered to. No late work will be accepted.

4. Make sure your writing is legible. If I can’t read it, then I won’t grade it.

5. As stated under “Classroom Rules and Expectations,” cheating of any kind and/or

plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment/exam.

**Texts and Resources:**

Below is a list of possible reading materials/texts that we may use during the year. \*\*\*This list is subject to change.

1. Books—Swallowing Stones; The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittmnan;

Romeo and Juliet (play)

2. Texts—The Elements of Literature (Holt); Integrated Vocabulary Development

3. Supplemental Materials—Various short stories, plays, poetry, essays, excerpts, etc.

**Academic Units:**

Below is a tentative outline of the academic units that may be covered in this class. This is subject to change at any time according to the teacher’s discretion.

1. August/September—Unit on academic writing and grammar.

2. October—Unit on Swallowing Stones.

3. November—Unit on Speech; Begin Poetry Writing unit.

4. December—Complete Poetry Writing Unit; Begin unit on Renaissance.

5. January—Unit on Renaissance Era and Romeo and Juliet

6. February—Continue with Romeo and Juliet

7. March— Complete Romeo and Juliet; Begin unit on The Autobiography of

Miss Jane Pittman

8. April— Complete The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman unit. Begin unit on short

short stories.

9. May—Complete unit on short stories. Begin unit on research.

10. June—Complete unit on research.

\*\*\*NOTE: Many of these literary pieces highlight a number of moral and adult issues. Because we are moving into more complex readings, discussion topics of such issues will be a part of the class. In turn, writing, literary analysis and criticism, speech, grammar, and vocabulary will be a part of ALL units.

**Extra Help:**

Students who are having difficulties with an assignment or classroom work are

encouraged to come to me with their concerns. If you need extra help, we can conference and arrange a time to meet according to our schedules. Possibilities may be before school or after school. If you need extra help, please don’t wait until it’s too late!

STUDENT SIGNATURE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_